AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A transgenic mouse or rat comprising a foreign DNA,

the foreign DNA <u>further</u> comprising a type II collagen promoter, <u>,</u> ~~and~~

a DNA selected from the group consisting of an MHC class II transactivator gene, an active region of the MHC class II transactivator gene, and a mutant of the MHC class II transactivator gene, said mutant having a master switch function for controlling expression of the MHC class II genes, <u>and</u>

<u>an enhancer sequence for activating transcription of the class II transactivator gene with an origin of the enhancer being the same as that of the type II collagen promoter,</u>

wherein said DNA is located under the control of said type II collagen promoter,

wherein administration of type II collagen to said transgenic mouse or rat at a dose of 0.01 mg to 0.05 mg two or more times results in presentation of pathologic conditions of human rheumatoid arthritis in said transgenic mouse or rat.

Claim 2-4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (Previously presented) The transgenic mouse or rat according to claim 1, which shows the following pathologic conditions (1) to (6):

(1) Joint swelling is observed in the whole body;

(2) Joint swelling lasting for a week or more is observed;

(3) Destruction, ankylosis, or deformity of bones in the extremities is observed;

(4) Infiltration of lymphoid cells is observed;

(5) Cartilage destruction and bone destruction due to formation of granulation tissue are observed; and

(6) Joint deformity progresses through early stage (stage I) and moderate stage (stage II).

Claims 6-10: Canceled

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): A method of producing a transgenic non-human mammal, the method comprising a step of:

introducing a foreign DNA into a cell in an early stage, the foreign DNA having a DNA which is selected from the group consisting of an MHC class II transactivator gene, an active region of the MHC class II transactivator gene, and a mutant of the MHC class II transactivator gene (having a master switch function for controlling an expression of the MHC class II genes) and which is located under the control of a type II collagen promoter.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a transgenic non-human mammal according to claim 11, wherein the foreign DNA comprises a type II collagen enhancer.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): An expression vector comprising:

a type II collagen promoter;

a DNA sequence located downstream from the type II collagen promoter and selected from the group consisting of a MHC class II transactivator gene, an active region of the MHC class II transactivator gene, and a mutant of the MHC class II transactivator gene (having a master switch function for controlling an expression of the MHC class II genes); and

a type II collagen enhancer.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): A screening method of a drug for human rheumatoid arthritis, the method comprising the following steps (a) to (c):

(a) inducing pathologic conditions of human rheumatoid arthritis in the transgenic non-human mammal described in any of claims 1 to 10;

(b) administering a test substance to the transgenic non-human mammal; and

(c) examining whether symptoms characteristic of human rheumatoid arthritis is relieved.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The screening method according to claim 14, wherein the step (c) determines whether one or more of the symptoms selected from the following (1) to (10) is relieved:

(1) Joint swelling is observed in three places or more in the whole body;

(2) Symmetry joint swelling is observed;

(3) Joint swelling lasting for a week or more is observed;

(4) Destruction, ankylosis, or deformity of bones in the extremities is observed;

(5) Infiltration of lymphoid cells is observed;

(6) Cartilage destruction and bone destruction due to formation of granulation tissue are observed;

(7) Joint deformity progresses through early stage (stage I) and moderate stage (stage II);

(8) Angiitis is observed;

(9) Interstitial pneumonia, pleuritis, and the like, are observed; and

(10) Anemia is observed.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): A screening method of a drug for human rheumatoid arthritis, the method comprising the following steps (A) to (C):

(A) preparing a test group and a control group, the test group comprising one individual or more of the transgenic non-human mammal described in any of claims 1 to 10 in which a pathologic condition of human rheumatoid arthritis is induced;

(B) administering a test substance to each individual of the test group; and

(C) comparing the degree of symptoms characteristic of human rheumatoid arthritis between the test group and the control group.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The screening method according to claim 16, wherein the step (C) compares one or more of the symptoms selected form the following (1) to (10) between the test group and the control group:

(1) Joint swelling is observed in three places or more in the whole body;

(2) Symmetry joint swelling is observed;

(3) Joint swelling lasting for a week or more is observed;

(4) Destruction, ankylosis, or deformity of bones in the extremities is observed;

(5) Infiltration of lymphoid cells is observed;

(6) Cartilage destruction and bone destruction due to formation of granulation tissue are observed;

(7) Joint deformity progresses through early stage (stage I) and moderate stage (stage II);

(8) Angiitis is observed;

(9) Interstitial pneumonia, pleuritis, and the like, are observed; and

(10) Anemia is observed.